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TO : Chief, PFS

DATE: 2 November 1956

FROM : Chief, LAS

SUBJECT: Weekly Activities Report #44

A. SIGNIFICANT ITEMS

None to report.

B. OTHER ACTIVITIES

1. Inquiries were received by Logistics for detailed information on all courses offered by the Air Command and Staff School; Communications' interest in Management programs under the Army led to discussions with [] and referral to [] for examination of some materials he has acquired.

2. At [] invitation, [], the new Training Officer from the Office of the Comptroller availed himself of a full briefing on LAS' activity with respect to its assigned responsibilities.

3. FSI has made a quota of three slots available to the Agency for its program on "Political Stability and Economic Development." These were filled by ORR and FI/[] personnel. The program covers 7 sessions of 2 hours each.

4. [] has been furnished curricular materials which we have accumulated from previous sessions of the War Colleges, with a view to familiarization and possible adoptions of some of the training techniques.

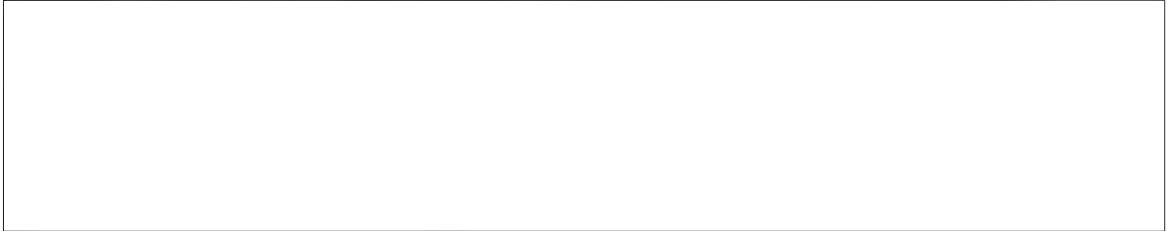
5. The value of the Integrated Language and Area Program is already showing up in one important aspect. Since in almost every case, either instructor or lecturer in the area classes has some fluency in the language, significant points are more easily made and doubtful points more easily clarified through the use of the indigenous word, phrase, clause, etc. or, in the case of [] through the use of []. Pending the time when area instruction can be given in the indigenous language in all areas covered, the frequent use of the indigenous language by way of explanation, illustration, clarification will be encouraged.

6. The experiment of holding weekly seminars, at which the general topic of the week's lectures is fully and freely discussed, is proving most successful. The students in the [] Language and Area Program have not only expressed their enthusiasm over the system, but have demonstrated it by the extent to which they have participated in the discussions. The experiment was launched by [] in the [] Program.

25 YEAR RE-REVIEW

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8. [] reports that the "Regional Survey: Economic Factors in Asia" came to a close on Thursday, 25 October, after six weeks. All the speakers except one were non-CIA and all were unusually effective, indicating they had spent a great deal of time in the preparation of their presentations. In one instance the speaker spent weeks in research and preparation of special maps in order to give a 40 minute talk. Papers prepared by the students and submitted on the last day covered the field from angles of especial interest and value to the students themselves, and showed a commendable amount of original research. The films shown during the last hour each day confirmed Confucius' statement that "one picture is worth a thousand words."

9. At the suggestion of [], SR, [] met with Messrs. [] and [] to suggest ways in which the Intermediate Intensive [] course can be tailored to better meet the needs of the SR students. It was decided that the chief weaknesses of the course are the following: first, insufficient hours are devoted to conversation; and second, there is a shortage of materials using "tracecraft" terminology. To help remedy the first weakness, SR has lent to LAS, on a part-time basis (six hours per day) a staff employee whose native language is []. With a view towards solving the second problem, [] will meet during the week of 29 October with a SR staff employee, who is intimately concerned with agent training. The purpose of this proposed meeting is to review the existing [] materials that exist in the [] language, with a view towards the utilization of some of these materials in the Intermediate Intensive [] course.

10. The Eastern Department provided tutorial assistance for Miss [], FE, during the past week, advising her as to the course of reading and providing books []. This assistance will be continued so long as the need exists.

11. The State Department's Foreign Service Institute, with which we exchange unclassified instructional materials, reported that they were recently asked to set up an advanced [] course. According to Miss Kay Clardy, in charge of [] instruction, they surveyed the field and found the [] to be the only useable text. They have requested fifteen copies.

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12. The turn-out for the German lecture by [redacted] EE, on 24 October, entitled "East German Economy" was only six persons. Although [redacted] contacted training officers beforehand, this helped little. According to TEO's, many potential listeners felt unable to spare the time, as they were already committed in other training programs. [redacted] suggested that in instances where there is a small turn-out, that the presentations be conducted as roundtable discussions. This will be tried in the future.

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13. [redacted] of [redacted], who has been acting as informant for the full-time [redacted] class for three weeks terminated his services and [redacted] assumed her duties on Monday.

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14. The special Pentagon [redacted] course has been temporarily suspended, as General Johnson and his group will not be able to continue class until the present work load on NATO is lessened.

25X1 15. Enrollment in the fourth running of the Americans Abroad, [redacted], course totalled seventeen employees and two dependents. Again, panel discussions, films, and color slides were considered by students the most effective teaching methods used. One student suggests that new employees in the pool be assigned to Americans Abroad courses as space permits, in order to dispose them favorably toward overseas duty early in their careers. This suggestion will be fully explored in terms of both pool employees and JOT's without overseas experience.

25X1 16. Current enrollment in internal language training courses is approximately [redacted] enrollment in self-study programs in approximately [redacted]. During the week [redacted] students used the language laboratory for a total of [redacted] hours.

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